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Between cause and control

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CURRICULUM VITAE

Valeska Pailin Korff was born on February 9th, 1981 in Bangkok, Thailand, where she spent the early years of her childhood. Upon return to her native Germany, she attended school in Bielefeld and later studied sociology at the Universities of Bochum and Bremen. In 2004, she moved to the Netherlands, where she continued her education at the University of Leiden, graduating cum laude as MA of Cultural Anthropology and Development Sociology in August 2005. Her master thesis analyzes local-global relations in the indigenous peoples' movement in Northern Thailand and is based on empirical field work in the region. Contacts established during this period enabled her to return to Thailand after graduation and take up a position as Assistant Manager in an EU-funded economic development project, conducted jointly by the Postharvest Technology Institute and the Science and Technology Research Institute of Chiang Mai University. Upon conclusion of this project, she moved back to Europe in order to continue her academic education. From September 2007 to August 2011 she held a position as Doctoral Researcher at the Interuniversity Center for Social Science Theory and Methodology at the University of Groningen, where she conducted research on the professionalization of humanitarian organizations, the outcomes of which are presented in this dissertation. Since September 2011, Valeska is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society at Stanford University, where she is involved in a project analyzing performance evaluation and metrics in the nonprofit sector.